

SSB 5360 - H COMM AMD

By Committee on Health Care & Wellness

ADOPTED AND ENGROSSED 4/14/09

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the  
2 following:

3 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 41.05 RCW  
4 to read as follows:

5 (1) The community health care collaborative grant program is  
6 established to further the efforts of community-based coalitions to  
7 increase access to appropriate, affordable health care for Washington  
8 residents, particularly employed low-income persons and children in  
9 school who are uninsured and underinsured, through local programs  
10 addressing one or more of the following: (a) Access to medical  
11 treatment; (b) the efficient use of health care resources; and (c)  
12 quality of care.

13 (2) Consistent with funds appropriated for community health care  
14 collaborative grants specifically for this purpose, two-year grants may  
15 be awarded pursuant to section 2 of this act by the administrator of  
16 the health care authority.

17 (3) The health care authority shall provide administrative support  
18 for the program. Administrative support activities may include health  
19 care authority facilitation of statewide discussions regarding best  
20 practices and standardized performance measures among grantees, or  
21 subcontracting for such discussions.

22 (4) Eligibility for community health care collaborative grants  
23 shall be limited to nonprofit organizations established to serve a  
24 defined geographic region or organizations with public agency status  
25 under the jurisdiction of a local, county, or tribal government. To be  
26 eligible, such entities must have a formal collaborative governance  
27 structure and decision-making process that includes representation by  
28 the following health care providers: Hospitals, public health,  
29 behavioral health, community health centers, rural health clinics, and  
30 private practitioners that serve low-income persons in the region,

1 unless there are no such providers within the region, or providers  
2 decline or refuse to participate or place unreasonable conditions on  
3 their participation. The nature and format of the application, and the  
4 application procedure, shall be determined by the administrator of the  
5 health care authority. At a minimum, each application shall: (a)  
6 Identify the geographic region served by the organization; (b) show how  
7 the structure and operation of the organization reflects the interests  
8 of, and is accountable to, this region and members providing care  
9 within this region; (c) indicate the size of the grant being requested,  
10 and how the money will be spent; and (d) include sufficient information  
11 for an evaluation of the application based on the criteria established  
12 in section 2 of this act.

13 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 41.05 RCW  
14 to read as follows:

15 (1) The community health care collaborative grants shall be awarded  
16 on a competitive basis based on a determination of which applicant  
17 organization will best serve the purposes of the grant program  
18 established in section 1 of this act. In making this determination,  
19 priority for funding shall be given to the applicants that demonstrate:

20 (a) The initiatives to be supported by the community health care  
21 collaborative grant are likely to address, in a measurable fashion,  
22 documented health care access and quality improvement goals aligned  
23 with state health policy priorities and needs within the region to be  
24 served;

25 (b) The applicant organization must document formal, active  
26 collaboration among key community partners that includes local  
27 governments, school districts, large and small businesses, nonprofit  
28 organizations, tribal governments, carriers, private health care  
29 providers, public health agencies, and community public health and  
30 safety networks, as defined in RCW 70.190.010;

31 (c) The applicant organization will match the community health care  
32 collaborative grant with funds from other sources. The health care  
33 authority may award grants solely to organizations providing at least  
34 two dollars in matching funds for each community health care  
35 collaborative grant dollar awarded;

36 (d) The community health care collaborative grant will enhance the  
37 long-term capacity of the applicant organization and its members to

1 serve the region's documented health care access needs, including the  
2 sustainability of the programs to be supported by the community health  
3 care collaborative grant;

4 (e) The initiatives to be supported by the community health care  
5 collaborative grant reflect creative, innovative approaches which  
6 complement and enhance existing efforts to address the needs of the  
7 uninsured and underinsured and, if successful, could be replicated in  
8 other areas of the state; and

9 (f) The programs to be supported by the community health care  
10 collaborative grant make efficient and cost-effective use of available  
11 funds through administrative simplification and improvements in the  
12 structure and operation of the health care delivery system.

13 (2) The administrator of the health care authority shall endeavor  
14 to disburse community health care collaborative grant funds throughout  
15 the state, supporting collaborative initiatives of differing sizes and  
16 scales, serving at-risk populations.

17 (3) Grants shall be disbursed over a two-year cycle, provided the  
18 grant recipient consistently provides timely reports that demonstrate  
19 the program is satisfactorily meeting the purposes of the grant and the  
20 objectives identified in the organization's application. The  
21 requirements for the performance reports shall be determined by the  
22 health care authority administrator. The performance measures shall be  
23 aligned with the community health care collaborative grant program  
24 goals and, where possible, shall be consistent with statewide policy  
25 trends and outcome measures required by other public and private grant  
26 funders.

27 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 41.05 RCW  
28 to read as follows:

29 By July 1st of each even-numbered fiscal year the administrator of  
30 the health care authority shall provide the governor and the  
31 legislature with an evaluation of the community health care  
32 collaborative grant program, describing the organizations and  
33 collaborative initiatives funded and the results achieved. The report  
34 shall include the impact of the program, results of performance  
35 measures, general findings, and recommendations.

1        NEW SECTION.   **Sec. 4.**   The health care authority may adopt rules to  
2   implement this act."

3        Correct the title.

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